# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:835
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
DREDGING IN BRAHMAPUTRA
Sonowal Shri Sarbananda

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) the current status of the dredging operation in river Brahmaputra in order to minimize the onslaught of floods and erosion in due course; and

(b) the funds sanctioned and spent therefrom for the purpose during the last three years and the current year?

## Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a): Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), an autonomous body under the administrative control of this Ministry, undertakes dredging work in National Waterway-2 (River Brahmaputra from Sadiya to Dhubri) for maintaining 2 metre depth for navigation in the main navigational channel of the river. This dredging is carried out only during the months of October / November to February / March when water level in the river is low and during the last three years expenditure of Rs. 91.05 lakhs was made by IWAI for such dredging. IWAI however, does not take up any dredging in the river Brahmaputra in order to minimize the floods or erosion as this is not the mandate of IWAI.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.